

PR9-526



INTRODUCTION

(2)

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20004

Memorandum

To: Members of the Council
From: Phyllis Jones, Secretary to the Council
Date: October 26, 1992
Subject: Referral of Proposed Legislation

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Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation has been introduced in the Office of the Secretary on October 22, 1992. Copies are available in Room 28, Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: Albert Pike, Ku Klux Klan Memorial Statue, Removal
Resolution of 1992, PR 9-526

INTRODUCED BY: Councilmember Lightfoot

The Chairman is referring this proposed legislation to the Committee of the Whole.

cc: General Counsel
Legislative Services Division



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Councilmember William P. Lightfoot

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Councilmember William P. Lightfoot introduced the following resolution,
which was referred to the Committee on _____.

To request that the President of the United States remove a memorial
statue maintained by the U.S. Department of Labor which honors
Albert Pike, Confederate General and Scottish Rite Southern
Jurisdiction Sovereign Grand Commander and chief founder of the
post-Civil War Ku Klux Klan.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
That this resolution may be cited as the "Albert Pike, Ku Klux Klan
Memorial Statue, Removal Resolution of 1992".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of the Columbia finds that:

(a) A memorial statue of Albert Pike stands at Judiciary Square in
the District of Columbia, having been dedicated in 1901;
(b) The statue stands on public land of the United States, and is
maintained at the public expense of United States taxpayers;

(c) Albert Pike was a chief founder and strategist of the Ku Klux Klan in the years following the Civil War, the "Chief Judiciary Officer" of the Ku Klux Klan and the "Grand Dragon" of the Ku Klux Klan in Arkansas;

(d) The United States Congress, on April 4 and 5, 1898, authorized a private organization to place the statue of Albert Pike on the public land of the United States, being falsely informed only that Albert Pike was a leader of white freemasons in the southern states, and "a distinguished citizen of the United States, an able lawyer and statesman, an accomplished poet, and a brave soldier.";

(e) The Massachusetts born Albert Pike was a Brigadier General of the Confederate Army, when troops under his command committed atrocities and war crimes against United States soldiers, causing a protest from the United States against the Confederate Army, whereupon Pike was relieved of his command and placed under arrest by the Confederate Army;

(f) Albert Pike was indicted for treason against the United States and fled prosecution by escaping to the territory of Great Britain;

(g) The News Quarterly, a publication of the Prince Hall freemasons, in its Spring 1992 edition, reprinted the most famous poem of the Ku Klux Klan, attributed to Albert Pike, called "Death's Brigade", which is a terrorist threat against African-Americans and all loyal citizens, and the Prince Hall publication denounced the statue of Ku Klux Klan leader Albert Pike as "an affront" to the predominantly African-American population of the District of Columbia;

(h) The Ku Klux Klan was an instrument of mass murder, terrorism, judicial barbarism, false imprisonment, kidnapping and torture, designed to re-enslave newly freed African-Americans, and to prevent the

establishment of modern industrial, labor and living conditions in the 01
southern states; and 02

(i) A statue representing a "Confederate-style justice" should not 03
symbolically stand guard over Judiciary Square, at a time when the rights 04
and living conditions of ordinary American citizens are under severe 05
attack, and it is an outrage, affront and insult to the people of the 06
Washington, and to all humanity who may look to the capitol of the United 07
States as the seat of justice and freedom. 08

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 09

That the Council of the District of Columbia requests that the 10
President of the United States honor its request to remove the statue 11
located at Indiana Avenue and 3rd Streets, in Judiciary Square, which is 12
maintained by the U.S. Department of Labor, this statue of Albert Pike, 13
Chief Judiciary Officer and Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan. 14

Sec. 3. The Secretary of the Council of the District of Columbia shall 15
transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the President of 16
the United States, the Secretary of the Department of Interior, the Office 17
of the Mayor, United States House of Representatives, Committee on the 18
District of Columbia and to the Delegate of the District of Columbia. 19

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first 20
date of publication in either the District of Columbia Register, the District 21
of Columbia Statutes-at-Large, or the District of Columbia Municipal 22
Regulations. 23